

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended). An evaporation device for increasing a concentration of a solid in a body of a liquid comprising the solid, said evaporation device comprising:

(a) at least one evaporation element comprising evaporation surface means for facilitating evaporation of the liquid by ~~heating~~ heat and mass transfer when the evaporation surface means is wetted with the liquid and exposed to wind at an outdoor environment, said at least one evaporation element being free of any external enclosure surrounding the evaporation element and preventing its exposure to said outdoor environment,

(b) wetting means for wetting at least one portion of the evaporation surface means of the at least one evaporation element with liquid from the body of liquid, either by displacement of liquid from the body of liquid to the at least one portion or by immersion of the at least one portion into the body of liquid, so as to facilitate evaporation of the liquid by heat and mass transfer and thereby to increase concentration of the solid in the body of liquid;

(c) orientation means for orienting said evaporation surface means in a direction at least approximately parallel to the wind direction, ~~whereby the rate of said evaporation and the total evaporation area of a surface of the body of liquid are increased~~; and

(d) support means for supporting the at least one evaporation element, wetting means and orientation means with the wetting means disposed for wetting the evaporation surface means of the at least one evaporation element whereby the rate of said evaporation and the total evaporation area of a surface

of the body of liquid are increased.

Claim 2 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said device further comprises wetting means for periodically wetting said evaporation surface by displacement of liquid from the body of liquid to the at least one portion.

Claim 3 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said wetting means comprise immersing means for at least partially immersing said evaporation surface means in said body of liquid.

Claim 4 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 3, wherein said immersing means comprise ballast chamber means, including a ballast chamber, for regulating the buoyancy of the device by alternating receiving therein a gas or a liquid.

Claim 5 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 4, wherein said immersing means further comprise air compressor means for forcing air into said ballast chamber, said chamber having openings to allow liquid thereinto.

Claim 6 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 3, wherein said immersing means comprise means for applying a mechanical force to the device to at least partially immerse said evaporation surface in said body

of liquid.

Claim 7 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 6, wherein said immersing means comprise an elongated rigid member movable in the direction perpendicular to a surface of the body of liquid.

Claim 8 (currently amended) An evaporation device according to Claim 3, wherein said wetting means comprise means for acting to rotate said evaporation surface means, thereby partially immersing it in said ~~aid~~ body of liquid.

Claim 9 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 8, wherein said wetting means comprise anemometer means for controlling rotation of the evaporation surface means.

Claim 10 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said wetting means comprise means for acting to pour said liquid onto said evaporation surface means.

Claim 11 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 10, wherein said wetting means comprise a liquid pump and a distribution system connected therewith.

Claim 12 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said evaporation surface means is exposable to wind in a position transverse to a surface of the body of liquid.

Claims 13, 14 and 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said orientation means comprise a wind vane.

Claim 17 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises means for making the device capable of at least temporarily floating on said surface of the body of liquid.

Claim 18 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said evaporation surface means comprises a porous fabric.

Claim 19 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said evaporation surface means is of a corrugated shape.

Claim 20 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said evaporation surface means has at least two evaporation surfaces.

Claim 21 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein the device comprises a plurality of evaporation elements.

Claim 22 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said evaporation surface means, when wetted, is exposable to said

outdoor environment from a majority of directions.

Claim 23 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 1, wherein said body of liquid is a pond and said device is adapted for being at least partially mounted on a bank of the pond.

Claim 24 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 23, wherein, said wetting means are capable of acting to pour said liquid onto said evaporation surface means and said wetting means comprise a liquid pump and a distribution system connected therewith, and further comprising a scaffold adapted for being mounted on a bank of the pond and carrying said at least one evaporation element with said evaporation surface means comprising one or more evaporation surfaces, and guiding means for guiding excess liquid used for wetting said evaporation surface means back to the pond.

Claim 25 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 24, wherein the distribution system is disposed at the top of said scaffold and the system comprises at least one perforated tray for receiving liquid from said pond and wetting said evaporation surfaces through the perforations.

Claim 26 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 25, wherein said tray is common for all the evaporation surfaces.

Claim 27 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 25, comprising a

plurality of evaporation elements and each element is provided with its own tray.

Claim 28 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to Claim 24, wherein the distribution system comprises a piping grid with a plurality of nozzles for wetting, at least indirectly, said evaporation surfaces.

Claim 29 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 24, wherein said scaffold comprises a bottom surface for collecting said excess liquid and preventing it from reaching the ground and seeping into the soil.

Claim 30 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 29, wherein said bottom surface is non-porous and constitutes the guiding means and it has a slope inclined downwardly towards said pond and is designed to extend to a pond's edge to let the excess liquid flow to the pond under gravity.

Claim 31 (original) An evaporation device according to Claim 29, wherein said bottom surface is associated with drain pipes inclined and extending towards a pond's edge to drainage of the excess water through these pipes to the pond.

Claim 32 (original) A kit comprising at least one evaporation device according to Claim 1, and further comprising at least one positioning means for keeping said evaporation device in position on a surface of a body of liquid.

Claim 33 (original) A kit according to Claim 32, wherein said positioning means comprises a float ring.

Claim 34 (original) A kit according to Claim 32, wherein said kit comprises a plurality of the evaporation devices.

Claim 35 (original) A kit according to Claim 32, wherein said kit comprises a plurality of the positioning means.

Claim 36 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of evaporation elements with each of the plurality of evaporation elements having a plurality of evaporation surfaces, wherein the support means supports the plurality of evaporation elements in spaced relation to one another in the body of liquid without any enclosure surrounding the plurality of evaporation elements, wherein the orientation means orient the evaporation surfaces of the plurality of evaporation elements in a direction at least approximately parallel to a direction of wind, said support means comprising means for supporting the orientation means above the plurality of evaporation elements.

Claim 37 (previously presented) The evaporation device according to claim 1, wherein the support means comprises floatation means for maintaining the evaporation device afloat on the body of liquid with the at least one portion of the at least one evaporation element above the surface of the body of liquid at least after the at least one portion has been wetted with liquid from the body of liquid.

Claim 38 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to claim 1, wherein the evaporation surface means comprises a porous fabric.

Claim 39 (previously presented) An evaporation device according to claim 1, wherein the evaporation surface means comprises a wettable solid.